IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously presented) An elongate explosive charge element, said explosive charge element including a flexible frangible cutting sheet formed of a flexible matrix containing a metal or ceramic powder; said charge element adapted to the penetration of a barrier structure.

2. (Previously presented) The charge element of claim 1, wherein said cutting sheet is comprised of a matrix of polymers including plasticisers, stabilizers and flexible agents, said matrix containing a substantially uniform distribution of powdered material.

3. (Previously presented) The charge element of claim 1, wherein said powdered material is selected singly or in combination from a group of metals and ceramics, said group of metals including copper, aluminium, brass and ferrous metals.

4. (Previously presented) The charge element of claim 2, wherein said cutting sheet is formed by an extrusion process.

5. (Previously presented) The charge element of claim 2, wherein said cutting sheet is formed by a casting process.

6. (Previously presented) The charge element of claim 1, wherein said cutting sheet is associated with an explosive agent.

7. (Previously presented) The charge element of claim 6, wherein said explosive agent is in sheet form laminated to said cutting sheet, the lamination comprising an explosive agent

layer and a first cutting sheet layer.

8. (Previously presented) The charge element of claim 7, wherein said lamination of said cutting sheet and said explosive agent layer are formed so as to produce a shaped charge effect when combined with a stand-off material; said charge effect having the general behavioral characteristics of the "Monroe Effect".

9. (Previously presented) The charge element of claim 8, wherein said lamination of said first cutting sheet and said explosive agent layer is combined with a second layer of cutting sheet so as to substantially envelop said explosive agent layer and said first cutting sheet; said second layer acting as a tamping layer.

10. (Previously presented) An elongate explosive charge element, said explosive charge element including a flexible frangible explosive cutting sheet, said charge element adapted to the penetration of a barrier structure.

11. (Previously presented) The charge element of claim 10, wherein said explosive cutting sheet is comprised of a matrix of polymers including plasticisers, stabilizers and flexible agents, said matrix containing a substantially uniform distribution of powdered material, said matrix further containing a distribution of explosive agent.

12. (Previously presented) The charge element of claim 11, wherein said powdered material is selected singly or in combination from a group of metals and ceramics, said group of metals including copper, aluminium, brass and ferrous metals.

13. (Previously presented) The charge element of claim 11, wherein said explosive cutting sheet is formed by an extrusion process.

14. (Previously presented) The charge element of claim 11, wherein said explosive cutting sheet is formed by a casting process.

15. (Previously presented) The charge element of claim 14, wherein said explosive cutting sheet is formed so as to produce a shaped charge effect when combined with a stand-off material; said charge effect having the general behavioral characteristics of the "Monroe Effect".

16. (Currently Amended) The charge element of claim[[s]] 2, ~~and 15~~ wherein said explosive cutting sheet and said stand-off material is combined with a layer of flexible frangible cutting sheet, said flexible frangible cutting sheet acting as a tamping layer.

17. (Currently Amended) The charge element of ~~any of claims~~ claim 1, ~~to 16~~ wherein said charge element is provided with a metal liner.

18. (Previously presented) The charge element of claim 17, wherein said metal liner is combined with laminations of said flexible frangible cutting sheet and said explosive agent; said metal liner acting a penetrating agent; said cutting sheet acting as a tamping agent.

19. (Previously presented) The charge element of claim 18, wherein said laminations of said cutting sheet, said explosive agent and said liner, when combined with a stand-off material act as a shaped charge with the behavioral characteristics of the "Monroe Effect".

20. (Previously presented) The charge element of claim 17, wherein said metal liner is combined with laminations of said flexible frangible explosive cutting sheet; said metal liner acting as a penetrating agent; said explosive cutting sheet acting as a tamping agent.

Claims 21 - 73 (Cancelled)